American Recorder.

"Be just, and fear not;
Let all the ends thou aim'st at
Be thy Country's, thy God's, & Truth's."

VOL. VIII] WASHINGTON, N. C.—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1823. [NO 383.

BY AUTHORITY.

AN ACT in addition to "An act to continue in force 'An act to protest the commerce of the United States, and punish the crime of piracy,' and, also, to make further provision for punishing the crime of piracy."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first, second, third, and fourth sections of an act, entitled "An act to protect the commerce of the United States, and punish the crime of piracy," passed on the third day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, be, and the same are hereby, continued in force, in all respects, as fully as if the said sections had been enacted without limitation, in the said act, or in the act to which this is an addition, and which was passed on the fifteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

PHILIP P. BARBOUR,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
DANIEL D. TOMPKINS,
Vice President of the United States, and
President of the Senate.
Washington, Jan. 30, 1823:—Approved.
JAMES MONROE.

AN ACT concerning the disbursement of Public Money.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, from and after the passing of this act, no advance of public money shall be made in any case whatever; but in all cases of contracts for the performance of any service, or the delivery of articles of any description, for the use of the United States, payment shall not exceed the value of the service rendered, or of the articles delivered previously to such payment: *Provided*, That it shall be lawful, under the special direction of the President of the United States, to make such advances to the disbursing officers of the government as may be necessary to the faithful and prompt discharge of their respective duties, and to the fulfilment of the public engagements: *And, provided, also*, That the President of the United States may direct such advances, as he may deem necessary and proper, to such persons in the military and naval service as may be employed on distant stations, where the discarge of the pay and emoluments to which they may be entitled, cannot be regularly effected.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That every officer or agent of the United States, who shall receive public money which he is not authorized to retain, as salary, pay, or emolument, shall render his accounts quarter-yearly to the proper accounting officers of the Treasury, with the vouchers necessary to the correct and prompt settlement thereof, within three months, at least, after the expiration of each successive quarter, if resident within the United States; and within six months, if resident in a foreign country: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to restrain the Secretaries of any of the Departments from requiring such returns from any officer or agent, subject to control of such Secretaries, as the public interest may require.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That every officer or agent of the United States, who shall offend against the provisions of the preceding sestions, shall, by the officer charged with the direction of the department to which such offending officer is responsible, be promptly reported to the President of the United States, and dismissed from the public service: *Provided*, That, in all cases, where any officer, in default as aforesaid, shall account to the satisfaction of the President for such default, he may be continued in office, any thing in the foregoing provision to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That no security given to, or obligation entered into with, the government, shall be in any wise impaired, by the dismissing any officer, or from failure of the President to dismiss any officer coming under the provision of this act.

Approved, Jan. 31, 1823.

AN ACT to provide for the appointment of an additional Judge for the Michigan Territory and for other purposed.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembly, That there shall be appointed an additional Judge for the Michigan Territory, who shall possess and exercise, within the Counties of Michilimackinac, Brown, & Crawford, in the Territory aforesaid, as said counties are now defined and established, or may he hereafter defined and established, the jurisdiction and power heretofore possessed and exercised by the Supreme Court of the said Territory, and by the County Courts of said counties respectively, within the said Counties, and to the exclusion of the original jurisdiction of the said Supreme Court: and the jurisdiction of the said Court, hereby established, shall be concurrent with the said County Courts; but in all suits, either at law or in equity, appeals shall be allowed from the decisions of the said County Courts to the Court established by this act, in the same manner as is provided for appeals from said Courts to the Supreme Court of said Territory: *Provided, always*, That the said Supreme Court shall have full power and authority to issue writs of error to the Court established by this act, in all civil causes, and to hear and determine the same when sitting as a Supreme Court of the Territory, according to the Constitution and laws of the United States, and to the statutes adopted and published by the Governor and Judges of said Territory: *And, provided, also*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to give cognizance to the Court hereby established, of cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, nor of cases wherein the United States shall be plaintiffs, except as hereinafter mentioned.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the said Supreme Court are hereby authorized, upon the reversal of a judgment of the Court established by this act, to render such judgment as the said Court ought to have rendered or passed, except where the reversal is in favor of the plaintiff in the original suit and the debt, or damages to be assessed are uncertain; in which case the cause shall be remanded to the county from whence it came, in order to a final determination.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, when any person, not being an executor or administrator, applies for a writ of error, such writ shall be no stay of proceedings in the court to which it issues, unless the plaintiff in error, his agent or attorney, shall give security, to be approved of by a judge of the said supreme court, which shall be certified on the back of such writ, that the plaintiff in error shall prosecute his writ to effect, and pay the condemnation money, and all costs, or otherwise abide the judgment of the court, if he fail to make his plea good; and no cause, except suits in equity, shall be removed to said Supreme Court from the Court hereby established, but by writ of error, as herein before provided; and suits in equity may be removed by appeal, in the same manner as is provided for appeals from the County Courts to the Supreme Court.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the Court established by this act, shall hold one term in each of the counties aforesaid, yearly, at the following times and places, to wit: at Prairie du Chien, on the second Monday in May; at Green Bay, on the 2d Monday in June; and at Mackinac, on the 3d Monday in July, in each and every year; and shall then and there proceed to hear and determine the pleas, process, and proceedings, depending therein, in the same manner as the said supreme or county courts might, or could have done, in case this act had not been passed; and the Clerks of the said County Court, shall be Clerks of the Court, hereby established in their respective counties, and shall be entitled to such fees for their services as may be allowed them by law; and the officers appointed to execute the process of the said county courts within the said counties, are hereby authorized and required to execute the process of the court hereby establshed.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the said court, hereby established, shall have and possess concurrent jurisdiction with the said Supreme Court, in and over all actions arising under the acts and laws in force, or which may be enacted, for the regulating trade and intercourse with the Indians, and over all crimes and offences which shall be committed within that part of the Indian country lying north and west of Lake Michigan, within the territory of Michigan.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted*. That the Judge to be appointed by virtue of this act, shall reside in one of the counties aforesaid, and shall receive the same salary, and payable in the same manner, as is provided and established by law for the Judges of the said Supreme Court of the territory of Michigan.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall take effect, and be in force, from and after the twentieth day of March next.

Approved, Jan. 30, 1823.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

A FEMALE ACADEMY at Farmwell Grove, Halifax County, under the charge of Mrs. Hines, offers more advantages for the Education of young Ladies, than any one the subscriber has ever seen. Mrs. Hines, to rare literary and ornamental accomplishments, unites the happy talent of enlisting the warmest affections of her pupils amid the most exemplary government, and of preparing young Ladies to enter on the stage of life, with minds richly imbued with every valuable female accomplishment, and above all, carrying with them that retiring modesty *and amiable deportment which adds charms to native loveliness in the female character.*

The School is located just at the margin of the Rocky lands, about 30 miles below Shockoe Springs, & is exceedingly healthy. And, although as yet but in its infancy, it contained this Session 28 young Ladies, chiefly from the Counties of Pitt, Edgecombe, Lenoir and Bertie; twenty-six of whom boarded in Mrs. Hines' own family, where Moral and Religious examples are seen every day, and where many others can be accommodated also.

The terms, *are perhaps, lower than at any other Female Boarding* School *in the State, and can be known, as also the course of instruction and employment, by application either by letter or in person to*

JOSEPH B. HINTON.

Dec. 5, 1822.——3m373

FEMALE SCHOOL.

ELIZABETH CANNON tenders her services to the inhabitants of Washington and its vicinity as an Instructress of children, and purposes opening a

SCHOOL for MISSES,

in the building next door west of Doctor M'Cullough's residence, on the first Monday in January—The terms are,

Spelling, Reading, & plain Sewing,	*$3 per quart'r*
Geography, Grammar, Writing, and fine Needle Work,	*$4 per quart'r*

Mrs. C. assures those who may be disposed to patronise her School, that every attention will be given, as well to the morals as to the literary attainments of the children committed to her care.

Dec. 20, 1822—tf375

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Subscriber being about to take a trip to the West Indies, has authorised Mr. Geo. H. Congleton, in his absence to transact his business. Those persons indebted either by note or account to me, are requested to make payment; and those whom I am indebted to, will present their acc'ts for liquidation to the aforesaid Congleton.

SOTHEY B. REW.

Washington, Jan. 23, 1823.—3i380.

N. B. the business will be conducted as heretofore, under the superintendance of Mr. G. H. Congleton' S. B. R.

SHIPPING ARTICLES

For Sale at this Office.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.
BEAUFORT COUNTY.
Court of Pleas and Quarter-Sessions,
November Term, 1822.

Original Attachment.

Samuel McGehee, vs. Wm. H. Clay.	*Levied on a Horse at A. Raven's, also on one at Lewis Leroy's, also on one Riding Chair at J. Selby's.*

IT is ordered by the Court that publication be made for the space of three months, successively in the 'American Recorder' newspaper, printed in the Town of Washington, that unless the said Wm. H. Clay be and appear before the said Court at the next term, to-wit, on the Monday next before the last Monday in Febuary next, and then and there replevy and plead to issue, the said Plaintiff will be permited to proceed to judgmeut by default.

Attest, THOMAS SMAW, *Clk.*
Pr's Fee $5

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA.
BEAUFORT COUNTY.
Court of Pleas and Quarter-Sessions,
November Term, 1822.

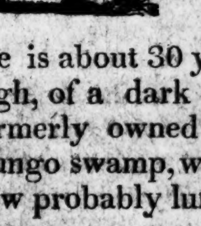
Original Attachment.

Benj. Runyon & Co. vs. Leland & Brothers.	*Nath'l J. Oliver summoned as Garnishee.*

THE Court being satisfied that the said Leland & Brothers are inhabitants of another State, do order, that publication be made for the space of three months successively in the 'American Recorder' newspaper printed in the town of Washington, that unless the said Leland & Brothers make their personal appearance before the said Court, at the next term, to-wit, on the Monday next before the last Monday in February next, and replevy and plead to issue, the said Plaintiff will be permitted to proceed to Judgment by default against them.

Attest, THOMAS SMAW, *Clk.*
Pr's Fee $5

$15 REWARD.



RAN-AWAY in July last, a negrowoman named

RUTH.

she is about 30 years old, five feet one inch high, of a dark yellow complexion, was formerly owned by Moses Windley up Pungo swamp, where she was raised, and is now probably lurking,

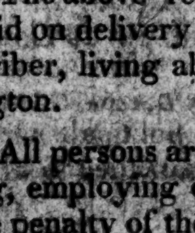
The above reward will be paid on the delivery of said negro to the subscriber, near the Log-House landing, Pungo river, or securing her in jail so that I get her again.

All persons are forwarned from harboring employing or carrying her off under the penalty of the law.

AXEM LANIER.

January 17n——3t378

15$ reward.



RAN AWAY from the Subscriber about the 10th Dec. ult. a negro woman, namod

RUTH.

She is about 21 years old; & is well known in this town having lived with Joseph B. Stickney, Esq. for a considerable time—she was recently purchased from Mr. Hector Scott of Hyde County, where she is no doubt now lurking.

The above reward will be immediately paid on delivery of said negro to the Subscriber, living about 3 miles from Washington.

All persons are forwarned from harboring, employing or carrying her off, under the penalty of the law.

STEPHEN OWENS.

Jan. 9, 1823——tf 377

ANOTHER NOMINATION.

At a meeting of the passengers on board steamboat Virginia on her passage from Wheeling to New Orleans, convened in pursuance of previous notice, on the evening Saturday the 7th December, for the purpose of selecting a candidate for the Presidency of the U. S. John Richardson, esq. of Massachusetts, was called to the chair, and Joseph Hough, of Pennsylvania, appointed secretary.

The object of the meeting being declared from the chair, it was assertained that a representation was present from the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Louisiana. The candidates put in nomination were Adams, Jackson, Clinton, Clay, Crawford and Calhoun. The merits and claims of the several candidates were strenuously supported by their respective friends; after a liberal and eloquent expresssion of sentiment, a ballot was taken. The two candidates highest in vote were John Q. Adams and Henry Clay; and it appeared that the number of votes for each was equal! Whereupon, the casting vote of the chairman was given for John Q. Adams; and it was accordingly decided, that he receive the recommendation of this meeting. Therefore,

Resolved, as the sense of this meeting, that John Q. Adams, be recommended to the independent and enlightened citizens of the U. States, as a man in whom, in a very eminent degree, are combined all those talents and qualifications which ought to characterize their chief magistrate.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the chairman, attested by the secretary, and published in the most respectable prints in the Union.

JOHN RICHARDSON, chmn.
Attest, JOSEPH HOUGH, Secy.

PIRACY.

An arrival from Havana, states, that tha pirates were yet numerous, and frequently committed robberies in the harbor. The new governor, gen. Vives, was daily expected, with 3000, men from Cadiz. Are they intended to subdue the South Americans, or to aid com. Owens to place the British yoke, "forcibly if necessary," on the necks of the people of Cuba?

CHINESE WOMEN.

The idolaters of beauty, the Chinese, are forever at the feet of the beings whom they persecute. When any of their wives are indisposed, *they fasten a silken thread round her wrist, the cord of which is given to the physician*, and it is only by the motion which the pulsation communicates to it that he is allowed to judge of the state of the patient. This precaution of jealousy is almost unique in its kind.

MATRIMONIAL RIGHTS.

The ladies are in general great enemies to the claim of the husband to correct the wife, notwithstanding great authorities in the law have held it strictly to be legal so to do. Indeed, a law writer of great authority and antiquity (if I mistake not it is Bracton) giveth a proper caution to husbands on this head. "For," saith he, "although it be lawful for the husband to correct the wife, with a *lawful* weapon, such as a *broomstick*, &c. &c. yet if he makes use of an *unlawful* instrument, such as an *iron bar*, or the like, and death ensue, it will be murder."—The females of the place where the author resided, are said to have been so little satisfied with this distinction in their favor, that they dragged our ancient sage of the law through the river, and gave him a thorough ducking.

Judge Buller, in an opinion he delivered in an action against a husband for bad treatment of his wife, laid it down as a positive law, "That a husband was privileged to beat his wife, if the instrument used was a wooden one, and no thicker than his thumb." It was on this occasion that the ladies of Exeter addressed a round robin to the Judge, in which they requested to be informed of the exact dimensions of his Lordship's thumb.

NOTICE.

The Copartnership of

CUSHING & BONNER

terminated on the 15th December, in consequence of the death of Mr. Charles Cushing.

All persons indebted to the late firm are called upon for a settlement of their accounts, as further indulgence cannot be granted; and those having claims are requested to present them for liquidation, t

JOSEPH BONNER,
Surviving Partner

Jan. 9.——tf377.

THE MAILS, ONCE MORE.

We have the satisfaction to inform our readers that orders have been received from the General Post-Office, for a renewal of one of our northern mails which has been so long suspended, and that a contract has been concluded for that purpose. This mail will close on Friday evenings, to leave here on the next morning, and it is now only to be desired that the contractor at Newbern would cause the mail under his direction to arrive on the days with which he commenced his contract, viz. Tuesdays and quit here on Wednesday morning, we should then have a return mail as formerly on Thursdays; whilst the contractor here would bring another on Sundays. The mail per the Newbern contract has of late arrived *during the night* of Fridays, which if persevered in, will still afford us but *one* opportunity *hence* for the north during the week.—We have no doubt the Post Master General will correct this as soon as he is advised of it, when we shall have the mails completely restored to their former footing, which is in truth a subject of congratulation to our fellow citizens.

BEAUFORT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

We have great pleasure in giving publicity to the Constitution of the '*Beaufort County Agricultural Society*' considering the institution calculated to be productive of general good and particularly beneficial to the cultivators of our soil, whom we cordially recommend to contribute their countenance and support. In the northern and middle States the excellent effects of similar associations are generally acknowledged, where the farmers are most zealous in their exertions to extend their usefulness. Our brother planters in this portion of the country, we hope, will be ambitious to emulate their praise-worthy example. We would respectfully suggest the propriety of awarding for premiums some articles of plate, instead of sums of money—the reasons are obvious, and we humbly conceive, would be preferable to the present plan.

Unlucky accident.—On the 21st inst. the schooner Nancy of Falmouth, Mass. Peter B. Eldridge, master, while receiving her cargo about thirty miles below this town, took fire in the cabin and burnt the after part of her down to the water before the fire could be extinguished.

The cause of Greece continues to prosper, another signal victory having been obtained over the Turkish fleet.

The emperor Alexander, who was a zealous patron of missions a few years ago, has refused the Moravian missionaries at Sarepta the liberty to baptize or to convert the heathen Calmucs, and confined them to the distribution of the Bible—even a word in the way of commentary is forbidden.

The Spanish papers announce that an Algerine squadron is cruising in the Mediteranean.

Commodore Porter's Squadron sailed from Norfolk, for the West Indies, on the 14th inst. A dinner was given to the Commodore, on the 5th, (his birth day,) by the officers of the squadron.

WM. GROSS, who was executed at Philadelphia, on the 7th inst. for murder, addressed the spectators, in substance, as follows:

"Men and Brethren—on the line which divides Time from Eternity I am allowed to pause to say a few words. They are the last I shall ever utter, only to commend my soul to my gracious Saviour. May they be useful. *Avoid Bad Company.* It leads to all crimes and plunges in all sin. AVOID CARD PLAYING. It has been my ruin. God guard you against these mighty tempters. Remember your Creator in the days of your youth. My hope and trust are in Jesus Christ. His precious blood can cleanse the most guilty. Avoid Bad Company and avoid Card Playing. God be merciful to me a Sinner; be warned & profit by my example.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

A proposition has been brought forward in the legislature of New York, 'for establishing a school of agriculture, for the education of young men in the practice and theory of husbandry.'

INGENIOUS WEAVING.

Miss Mary Davis, of Franklin County, lately wove a Bag which will hold three bushels, without a seam. It was wove with three treadles.

SANS SOUCI, FEB. 23, 1823.

MR. M'WILLIAMS,

Sir—Agreeably to a resolution of the Beaufort Agricultural Society, I have to request you will publish in your paper an account of their proceedings on the 18th inst.

I am, Sir,
Yours &c.
THOS. H. BLOUNT, *Sec'ry.*

At a meeting of a number of the citizens of Beaufort County at the Court-House in Washington for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society, John G. Blount, Esquire, was called to the Chair, and John Myers, Esquire, was appointed Secretary—After a few remarks by Mr. Thomas H Blount stating the object of the meeting, the following Constitution was read and adopted—

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

BEAUFORT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The undersigned duly appreciating the importance, both in a national and individual point of view, of an improved system of husbandry; persuaded that Agricultural Associations have proved eminently beneficial to other States and Countries; and desirous to procure for themselves and their neighbours the advantages of such institutions, have determined to associate together, and to constitute an Agricultural Society having for intention and enquiry the promotion and improvement of Agriculture, Rural Economy and Domestic Manufactures—

1. The Society shall be styled "THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF BEAUFORT."

2. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary.

3. The Society shall meet regularly at the Town of Washington in the County of Beaufort on the second day of each regular Term of Beaufort Superior Court in the Spring and Fall, and shall continue by adjournment from day to day until the business to be transacted shall be finished.

4. The President, or in his absence, the Vice-President shall have power to call special meetings of the Society, by notice published in any paper printed in Washington.

5. A quorum for business shall consist of at least seven members, exclusive of the presiding officer—but if a sufficient number do not attend on the day, it shall be in the power of any three members to adjourn the Society not exceeding three days.

6. The officers of the Society shall be elected to serve 'till the Spring Term of 1824; and from and after that time, shall be elected on the first day of each Spring meeting annually—and in case of any vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, the vacancy shall be supplied at the first meeting thereafter held, which appointment shall continue 'till the next annual election.

7. The President shall preside at the meetings of this Society, and perform all the usual duties of that station—In his absence, the same duties shall devolve on the Vice-President, and if he also shall be absent, by such person as the Society shall elect to serve pro. tem.

8. The Treasurer shall keep his accounts in a correct manner in a book to be provided for that purpose, and when required, produce them to the Society for inspection—at every stated meeting in the Spring or whenever his office expires, he shall produce a fair and regularly stated account of all receipts, and expenditures—In the latter case he shall moreover deliver such accounts, together with all books and other property of the Society in his hands, to his successor in office, or to the order of the Society.

9. The Secretary shall have in charge all the books and papers of the Society, other than those of the Treasurer, and keep the same in exact order—He shall register all letters which shall be written by the President, or by his order, or by order of the Society.

10. New members may be admitted; but not unless they shall be nominated by two members, and receive the votes of two thirds of those present at the meeting.

11. Whenever a new member is elected, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify him of his election in the following form—"*On the —— day of —— 182— A. B. was elected a member of the Agricultural Society of Beaufort, the Society inviting his assistance. C. D. Sec'ry.*"

12. The election of Officers shall be by ballot, and the person having the highest number of votes, shall be declared elected.

13. If the presiding officers, the Treasurer or Secretary be absent at any meeting, the Society shall elect one to serve pro. tem.

14. The Society shall propose prizes for experiments and improvements in husbandry, for the best stock of different kinds, and domestic manufactures—and more effectually to disseminate useful knowledge the Society will from time to time publish collections of Memoirs and observations selected from such communications as shall be made them—To promote their views the friends of Agriculture are invited to assist the Society with experiments in husbandry.

15. All claims for prizes shall be sent in writing.—If it happen in any case, that there is no competition for a prize, but only a single claim, the Society will consider such claim, and if it be supported answerably to the views and just expectations of the Society, the prize proposed shall be decreed.

16. Every member shall within four months after his admission, and within four months after each Spring meeting pay into the hands of the Treasurer the sum of five dollars.—At the close of every Fall meeting, the Treasurer shall lay before the Society a list of the members, specifying those who have not paid their contribution.

17. The Funds of the Society shall be appropriated by a majority of the members present at regular meetings, to the objects of the Institution and to no other purpose whatsoever.

18. The Society shall have power to make such rules and bye-laws for the regulation of the Society, and the management of their concerns, as they may think proper.

19. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary, or any two of them, shall have power to make any necessary regulations to carry into effect the objects of the Society, not inconsistent with the Constitution thereof which shall be in force 'till the meeting of the Society, and no longer.

20. No alteration in any of the above rules shall be made unless it be sanctioned by two thirds of the members present, at two successive stated meetings of the Society.

Washington, N. C. 13th Feb. 1823.

The following Officers were unanimously elected to serve for one year, viz.

JOHN G. BLOUNT, President.
FRED. BARROW, Vice-President.
ELI HOYT, Treasurer.
THOS. H. BLOUNT, Secretary.

Resolved, That premiums be offered for the Crops of 1823, and also the production of Stock & Manufactures.

Resolved, That there shall be a shew of Stock & Manufactures held at or near the Town of Washington on the last Monday of December, 1823.

Resolved, That those claiming premiums for the crops as above, shall file their claim in writing with the Secretary at least ten days before the Spring meeting of 1824 and at the same time, shall state the kind of land, quality and quantity of manure and (if any), how often ploughed, the previous crop, and the quantity gathered, with any other observations they may think necessary.

Resolved, That no person be entitled to produce any Stock or Manufactures for premiums who shall not give notice to the Secretary of the Society of their intentions on or before the 25th of December, 1823.

Premiums for 1823.

For the largest	quantity of	Corn on one acre	$[illegible]
do.	do.	Cotton do.	
do.	do.	Turnips on 1-2 an acre	
do.	do.	Carrots on 1-4 an acre	
do.	do.	Onions on do.	
do.	do.	Irish Potatoes 1-2 acre	
For the best Boar not exceeding one year old			
do. Bull	do.	three do.	
do. Heifer	do.	three do.	
do. Milch Cow			
do. Mule, not exceeding one year old			
Not less than 30 yards of the best Cloth, calculated for negro men in Winter			

☞ The Articles and Stock exhibited to be the produce of Beaufort County, nor will the premium be awarded in any case unless the Committee shall decide it meritorious.

Congressional Election.

MR. M'WILLIAMS,

You inform us in the 'Recorder,' that Doctor *Thomas H. Hall* and Gen'l *William Clark* are rival candidates for the high honor of representing this District, in the 18th Congress of the United States.

It was to have been expected, that when asking for another re-election, the Doctor would have cited the good people of the District, to instances of his overwhelming eloquence in debate, or profound sagacity in counsel, in matters of great national wea[l] or, at least—that he would have informed us, what we are now most concerned to know—whether he is, or is not a RADICAL. It is to be hoped, that he does not design resting his claims *solely* on the fatiguein[g] cock and bull story, he told us last year in the form of reasons wherefore he voted against an uniform system of Bankruptcy.

Nor has the General done much, besides telling us—pipers news—that the *hard st[uff]* is better than paper money, (and O! cutti[ng]

[illegible]) | have m[illegible] | cessary | has left | fected | point, t[illegible] | freemen | draw in | tiring b[illegible] | The | District | will ren[illegible] | district, | it should | *Presiden[t]* | Represe[ntatives] | strongly | that the | may hav[e] | honor in | the Pre[sident] | The ha[illegible] | when it | ings in | could ob[illegible] | vote, to | monishe[d] | thorough[ly] | asks his | Legislat[ure] | there is a | gistrate | The p[illegible] | serve wel[l] | alarm) t[illegible] | pretext o[f] | whole pa[rty] | United S[tates] | *highest o[f]* | opposing | Chief Ma[gistrate] | sures of | thrown a | can chara[cter] | ple, that t[illegible] | Crawford | Radical p[illegible] | *ing this c[illegible]* | We wis[h] | know, th[e] | gentlemen | *Radical m[illegible]* | the best ho[illegible] | on earth ?- | cordial sup[port] | measures, | at home, | world ?

The Ed[illegible] now at W[ashington] Jackson w[illegible] weeks, and ture for Me[illegible]

Canova, [illegible] has left beh[ind] francs, a su[illegible] ling.

It was wi[th] ed the una[illegible] which prev[illegible] sentatives, [illegible] bill to provi[de] of the acco[unts] Vice Presid[ent] State of Ne[w] we were pre[illegible] of the comm[ittee] bill. The [illegible] gentleman b[illegible] thily estima[illegible] ed through [illegible] judice and m[illegible] to be due no[illegible] and indeed t[illegible] of his claim[s] take an earl[y] report of the[illegible]

Yesterday [illegible] journed Mee[ting] the adjustme[nt] ish Treaty. KING attende[d] TAZEWELL, yet arrived.

THE [illegible]

The Infant[illegible] the *Ninfa Co[illegible]* Captain Pabl[o] brig Spark, [illegible] val in Hampt[on] day's Beacon the severity [illegible] winds, from [illegible] come up to t[illegible] charge.—The were yesterda[y] marines, and Three others the prize at th[e] the liberty of t[illegible] Custom-House w[illegible] rendered to t[illegible]

truth) that but few of us these hard times, have much of either kind of that very necessary article. The main point he too, has left untouched, viz. how he stands affected towards *Radicalism?*—Upon this point, the Gentlemen must be plain, or the freemen of this district, will soon seek to draw into this arena, *other* and more retiring but *less disguised* merit.

The *next* Congressional Election in this District, involves considerations, which will render it immensely important to the district, perhaps to the whole nation. If it should so happen, that the electing of the *President*, should devolve on the House of Representatives, (and present appearances strongly indicate it,) it is not impossible, that the representative from this district, may have at *his sole disposal*, the highest honor in the whole civilized world, to-wit, the Presidency of these United States. The hair breadth escape of this nation, when it required more than thirty ballotings in *Congress*, before Mr. Jefferson could obtain the requisite majority of one vote, to elect him over Aaron Burr, has admonished every American, to understand thoroughly the *feelings* of the man, who asks his sufferage for a seat in the national Legislature, at a time like the present when there is a prospect of having a Chief Magistrate so elected.

The people are aware (and you sir deserve well of your country for sounding the alarm) that a party, under the specious pretext of *REFORM*, and backed by the whole patronage of the Treasury of the United States, are labouring to make the *highest offices* of the Nation their own, by opposing and traducing our present beloved Chief Magistrate, and those leading measures of his administration, which have thrown a halo of glory around the American character!! It is known to the people, that this Treasury incumbent, Wm. H. Crawford, is at the head of this *self-named* Radical party, and—that *he aims at governing this country*.

We wish, and the people have a right to know, the undisguised sentiments of the gentlemen;—whether they will support *Radical men and measures*, and thus blast the best hopes of the last refuge of freedom on earth?—or, whether they will give their cordial support to those patriotic men and measures, which have made us prosperous at home, and respected throughout the world?

A VOTER.

The Editor of the N. Y. "Statesman," now at Washington, writes that "Gen. Jackson will be at Washington in a few weeks, and will soon after take his departure for Mexico."

Canova, the celebrated sculptor at Rome, has left behind him a fortune of 7,000,000 francs, a sum not for short of 300,000 sterling.

WASHINGTON, FEB. 18.

It was with great plesaure that we observed the unanimity and the good feeling which prevailed in the House of Representatives, yesterday, on the subject of the bill to provide for the equitable settlement of the accounts of D. D. TOMPKINS, (the Vice President,) the late Governor of the State of New York; for which, however, we were prepared, by the interesting report of the committee, which accompanied the bill. The character and services of this gentleman begin to be more justly and worthily estimated, than they were when viewed through the murky atmosphere of prejudice and misrepresentation. Believing it to be due not only to him, but to Congress, and indeed to the country, that the merits of his claims should be known, we shall take an early opportunity to publish the report of the committee on his case.

Yesterday was the day fixed for the adjourned Meeting of the Commissioners for the adjustment of Claims under the Spanish Treaty. Commissioners WHITE and KING attended. It is not known that Mr. TAZEWELL, the third Commissioner, has yet arrived. *Nat. Int. of Feb. 19.*

THE SPARK'S PRIZE.

The Infant Cataline, (or more property, the *Ninfa Catalana*, [Catalonian Nymph] Captain Pablo Dauhes,) prize to the U. S. brig Spark, capt. Wilkinson, whose arrival in Hampton Roads we noticed in Friday's Beacon, having been prevented by the severity of the weather, and adverse winds, from proceeding to Baltimore, has come up to this port, where she will discharge.—The captain and ten of her men were yesterday landed under, an escort of marines, and lodged in the Borough jail. Three others claiming to be passengers in the prize at the time of her capture, have the liberty of the town. She is at the Custom-House wharf, and will to day be surrendered to the Marshal of the United States for this district. Her cargo is valuable, concisting of Brandy, Wine, Sugar, Coffee, Fruits and Dry Goods, said to be the property of Spanish subjects, and the vessel represented as a regular trader between Havana and Campeachy.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

TO THE EDITORS.

Gentlemen: We have lately been regaled with many sage remarks and calculations about exports, imports, and balance of trade. All fair and profitable trade consists of an exchange of equivalents. In a trade of this kind, both parties are gainers, because no one will exchange an article which he values for one which he does not want or value. If he did not value the one which he purchases, more than that which he gives for it, he would not make the trade. How are we to estimate the value of any thing, but by the demand, or the desire of some one to have it, and what he is willing to give for it? The proportions of supply and demand are reciprocal, or in other words, they mutually regulate each other, and make market price. Two persons, or two nations, having such a surplus over and above what they want for use or consumption, actually double the amount of each surplus by a fair exchange. Without the ability to make the exchange, these surpluses would be so much of their productive labor thrown away, but which, by this exchange, becomes actual value or wealth, whether for further production or consumption.

I take wealth to be nothing more than the means of enjoyment, consisting of the great variety of articles in use among men. In a trade consisting of a fair exchange of equivalents, I should like to be informed where the balance lies, except that it is a balanced account, or finished trade, leaving nothing further to do. Would any one be silly enough to make or continue, what he knew or believed to be a bad trade? Or shall any wiseacre in or out of a legislature, undertake to regulate my affairs in such a case, modestly calling me a lunatic, and undertaking to appoint me a guardian either in himself, or the fooleries of misguided legislation? This mighty affair is nothing more or less than the effect of purchasing on credit, one of the parties taking the property of the other, promising an equivalent value; which he either does, or does not, give. If he does as every honest man would do, that is, redeem his promise this adjusts the account, and where is the balance against him? If, however, he never does so, he has so much clear gain, of the other party, (but very dishonestly gotten;) and even during the term of the credit, what is the real balance against him The trade is as yet incomplete, the account unbalanced—does it hurt him to have the use of the other's wealth for six or twelve months, or as many years? If he is prudent, he will use it for profit, to make ready the payment: if he does not this, he spends it in enjoyment, and must make it good out of his other means of enjoyment, if he has any; if not, he has gained and consumed so much of the wealth of the other for nothing, and is what we call, in the vernacular tongue, a bankrupt—no uncommon sort of a thing in these days of paper and credit and broken promises. Surely the balance of trade is not against him who has gained all and given nothing, and cannot be made to give any thing. It is idle talk to say, that the party loses which imports more than it exports of articles which constitute wealth, or the means of enjoyment; and of these all trade, both export and import, as well as domestic, consists, no matter what the variety or modification, whether goods manufactured or raw, skins, pearls or diamonds, gold and silver coin, bullion, or what not. —What is gold and silver money but a part of the great aggregate of wealth, and a very minor part of that capital which is used in trade? used to perform an important, but subordinate function, in facilitating the circulation of greater masses, a portion of the general wealth used as money only on account of its convenient qualities. Why do not the whimperers cry over other articles of re-exportation, which are sent out for identically the same purpose as specie, to buy goods of different varieties, either upon new bargains or the fulfilment of old ones? Where did we get it? We bought it some where, (not in this country,) with wealth which must primarily have been produced here, as it is certainly not found and prepared in this country, to any but an amonnt too small to be talked of.

Some one who calls himself Hamilton, [I know not whether it be Alex. Hamilton, formerly secretary of the treasury, or Hamilton the historian of the British debt and finance, at the same time that he furnishes us with a schedule of the real causes, he runs a wild goose chase after any thing but the cause, or cure, of the evils which he attributes to the excess of imports over exports. He tells us, without intending it, that this horrible relation between the trading communities of the United States and Great Britain, is actually produced by a credit trade, in the shape of bank and other promissory notes, United States debt and bank stock, canal and insurance stock, &c. and seems almost to cry over the only item which comes in as a real payment after the other actual value exported; that is, the eight or ten millions of dollars exported to purchase imports. And pray, where did we get the specie from? Did we not purchase it with other wealth which we exported, and received the specie for, as an article of trade and merchandise? a merchandise, which if the great wisdom of legislators will let alone to be managed by that very useful class of men, the merchants, (who are in fact the agents of the whole world for making those exchanges which supply a large portion of its enjoyment) will always go in sufficient quantities to facilitate exchanges, wherever there is sufficient to give for it, actually to give, not promise without performing—come to this, the money will not come to you, but offer a real value and you get it. What are all the other items but mere credit, the representatives of value, and which enable the holders, because they are so, to demand the value of which they are only the representatives in a given form, more convenient, or, on some other account, preferable. Here you have the whole secret of the cause of exporting the precious stuff, which is of no more value than the amount of other things which it sells for. The true cause to which this matter [about which there is so much clamor] is to be referred, is a most vicious paper circulating medium, purporting to be, what it is not and never can be, money: it can never be but its representative; and whenever the just proportion between them is broken, it is no longer a real, but false, representative—a depreciated paper credit, placing the balance of money exchange against the country using it. Such is the cause of the exchange being against this country. Is this and its consequences all the evils which have resulted from the paper system? Certainly not. Independent of the evil effects of the alteration of prices, by depreciation and appreciation, it has been productive of other effects in the creation of fraud and crime, in a proportion which I verily believe could not have existed in and other way. Does any one doubt it? Let him reflect that there is probably not one single bank in the Union where has not been crime or fraud, greater or less, committed by some of the persons employed to transact their business, who without the temptation thus held out to them would not have been guilty?—Who ever heard of the robbery of mails until the transmission of bank notes by them? a crime for which many executions have taken place in different parts of the country: and the crime of forgery, which in the eye of the law was a minor one, has been changed into counterfeiting and punished capitally. Who have been the real authors, the remot cause of all these crimes? and these are not all.

The same system has introduced into the country, an artificial mode of living, which renders it imprudent, even ruinous, for young people who are poor, or in moderate circumstances, to marry.—The consequences to morals are but too visible—go to the cities and towns, and you see every where walking, living evidences of this truth. Who, I ask emphatically, are the authors of all this crime which turns the soul sick? Legislators! the authors of misguided interested, indirect legislation! Yes! legislators! who if there is any one class of men who have more to answer for hereafter than another, it is this class! for I do believe, that either remotely, or proximately, they have been the cause of more crime, vice, and misery, than all other clsses together. If I am asked for a cure, I say to the creators of those evils, go back and undo your doings, which have made them, slowly and cautiously, but steadily—attempt not the cure by progressive legislative expedients, which will but heap up evil on evil. To those who believe with Hamilton and others that the evil arises from the want of protection to manufactures, and would be relieved by it, I will only say, that if they really believe what they say, they are mistaken; if they do not, they are uncandid. This remedy would do another wrong to the community at large, for the benefit of a few capitalists.

The remedy for the evils complained of must be found in a removal, or correction of their causes, viz. the various component ports of the paper system, from the United States' funded debt stock, down to the [illegible] petty of the shaving shops, (called [illegible]s) in any of the states. To accomplish this, the general government should institute a system of rigid economy, thereby to avail itself of the means of wiping off at the earliest day, the whole of the debt—lay aside entirely the plan of borrowing and funding, unless driven to it by absolute necessity in time of war; if so, redeem at the earliest period of peace. Next, let the authorities to whom it appertains, either abolish the bank charters, or so modify them, as to compel specie payments, refuse to renew expiring charters, and restrict issues to notes not less than twenty dollars.—This remedy would be slow and gradual, but if persevered in, would be successfull: perhaps for a time it might be painful; but not more so than the present state of suffering, which arises from the fluctuation of the currency, (and which, under the existing system, must be endless-) We should then arrive at a point from which there must be a re-action, and the community like a benighted traveller who having lost his way, had gotten into a morass covered with brambles and briars, presenting endless obstacles and suffering, is yet enabled, by the small distant glimmering of light left behind him, (though torn and bleeding) gradually to make his way back, with, however, a certainty of some suffering. If this expedient cannot be put in practice, and the proper authorities will not correct, or put down these institutions, either on the ground of their inexpediency, or unconstitutionality, then the people have before them, either the destruction of this baneful system, or the ultimate destruction of all their rights as freemen.

In conclusion, I will say to the people of the United States, what a commander once said to his soldiers when going into battle, after having pointed out the enemy, "if you do not kill them, they will kill you."

VERNACULAR.

DIED

On the 28th of January last, at the Cherokee Agency, Col. RETURN JONATHAN MEIGS.

SHIP NEWS.

Arrived since our Last.

14th Sloop Lucy Healy, Hawks, N. York
Groceries to Burbank & Potts.
17th Sch. Franklin, Midyett, in ballast N. York.
18th „ Superior, Kelly, do. do.
20th „ Mount Vernon, Sawyer, Philadelphia.
27th „ Nancy, Luther, N. York.
Sundries to Burbank & Potts.
„ „ Proxy, Cook, in ballast N. York.

Cleared.

19th Sloop Edenton, Walker, Baltimore,
Lumber & Naval Stores by Burbank & Potts.
„ Sch. Charles Hayes, Russel, West Indies.
21st Sloop Eliza, Laycock, Bermuda.
„ Sch. Peacock, Okes, West Indies.
26th Sloop Lucy Healy, Hawks, New York
Naval Stores & Cotton by Burbank & Potts.

GARDEN SEEDS.

BURBANK & POTTS,

Have just received from New-York a general assortment of Garden Seeds which they warrant to be fresh and good, and which they offer on moderate terms.

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TOWN PROPERTY.

WLL be Sold on the 26th day of March next, at the Court-House in Washington, the following Lots or as much thereof as will satisfy the Town Taxes due thereon (and the cost of advertising) for the year 1822.

1	Lot given in by the heirs of Jno.	Armstead.
1	do. No. 73, by Thos.	Acworth,
1–2	do. 32, heirs of Jos.	Baker,
1	do. 25,	Wm. Blackledge,
1–3	do. 39,	William S. Bell,
1	do. 54, h'rs	Mildred Campell,
1	do. 5,	Micajah Cotton,
2	do. 16 & 17,	Terence Delany,
1	do. 44,	L. Dickenson,
1	do. 71,	Gilbert Gary,
1	do. 24,	John Holland,
1	do. 79,	William Harrell,
1	do. —,	Daniel King,
5 1–2	do. —,	Lewis Leroy,
1–2	do. 8, heirs	David Marsh,
1	do. 55,	Mary Marsh,
1	do. 70,	Isom Marriner,
1	do. 100,	Peter Pecar,
1–2	do. —,	Sam'l Ralston,
1	do. 46,	John Selby, Jr.
2	do. —,	Thos. Wollard,
1	do. —,	Sam. Wollard, sr.
1–2	do. —,	Nancy Cogdell,
1	do. 2,	John Marriner,
2–3	do. 74, h'rs	Edward Reany,
1	do. 94, h'rs	Reading Hawkins
1	do. 18,	Sally Anderson,

SAMUEL W. LUCAS, T. T. C.

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POETRY.

LONE HOURS—No. 2.

The smiles of our April morn were bright
 But its Eve was dimm'd with tears, Love;
And the gayest flowers of Earth's delight,
 Have their hope-tints shaded with fears, Love;
Then let the sun or the cloud roll on—
 Be ours unwearied to strive, Love,
To win the Peace that can be won
 Whatever on earth arrive, Love:
That when our summer-clad moments are past
 And gloomier winter shall come, Love,
No sorrow or tear shall overcast
 The moulds that welcome us home, Love:—
For when the last breath of existence below
 On the ocean of time has curled, Love,
Our spirits shall burn with a seraphim glow
 In a cloudless winterless world, Love!

SELECTED.

THE MOTHER'S TEARS.

I saw beside the grassy tomb,
 A little coffin fair;
And many gazed, as if the bloom
 Of Eden, wither'd, there.

The little vessel, short and wide,
 Receiv'd a sight from all;
For two sweet infants, side by side,
 Were shrouded in one pall.

And now the mother at their head,
 Like marble stood with grief;
But every dearly tear she shed,
 Then seem'd to give relief.

She raised the napkin o'er them spread,
 Which hid them from her view;
Then bending o'er the coffin's head,
 She gaz'd a last adieu.

And on their face so cold and fair,
 Impress'd the last fond kiss;
And often would she then declare—
 "Not grief was e'er like this!"

"What have I done to anger God?
 Oh! tell me now I pray:—
Why must I bear his heavy rod,
 Or see my infants' clay?"

I saw the aged pastor weep,
 When closely standing by,
And long shall mem'ry safely keep
 His answer in reply.

A shepherd long had sought in vain,
 To call a wardering sheep;
He strove to make its pathway plain,
 Through dangers thick and deep.

But still the wanderer stood aloof—
 And still refus'd to come;
Nor would she ever hear reproof—
 Or turn to seek her home.

At last the gentle shepherd took
 Her little *lambs* from view!
The mother turn'd with anguish'd look
 She turn'd—and follow'd too!

ANECDOTE.

[SELECTED FOR THE RECORDER.

Literary Bulls—Pope, in his translation of Homer, in speaking of an eagle and her young, says: "Eight callow infants filled the mossy nest, *Herself the ninth.*"

Also in his Essay on Criticism:—

"When first young Maro in his boundless mind
A work *to outlast immortal Rome designed.*"

Dryden sings—"A horrid *silence* first *invades* my ear:"

Virgil also knew how to make a bull—

"Moriamur et in media arma ruamus."
Let us *die* and rush in the middle of the fight.

Dr. Johnson being asked, what was love? answered, it is the folly of a wise man, and the wisdom of a fool.—And Dryden being asked the same question by a lady, replied, it is a subject I have felt and heard but never yet could *understand*.

The late Col. Ethan Allen, father of the present Envoy to Chili, had a high opinion of himself and his brothers, and took occasion to observe, that there never were seven such born of any woman. You are mistaken, said a Scotch officer—"Mary Magdalen was delivered of seven, *exactly like you.*"

OLD MAIDS.

A spright writer, expresses an apinion on old maids in the following manner: I am inclined to believe that many of the satirical aspersions cast upon old maids, tell more to their credit than is generally imagined. Is a woman remarkably neat in her person, she will certainly die an old maid. Is she particularly reserved towards the other sex, she has all the squemishes of an old maid. Is she frugal in her expenses, and exact in her domestic concerns, she is cut out for an old maid. And if she is kindly humane to the animals about her, nothing can save her from the appellation of an old maid. In short, I have found that neatness, modesty, economy and humanity, are the never failing characteresties of an old maid.

Two English noblemen on their travels arrived in Paris, put up at a house in which a German Count had lately died, and at that time lay a corpse. In the middle of the night, one of the two not being able to sleep, and growing weary of his bed arose in order to amuse himself in the kitchen, where he heard some people talking. He had diverted himself for some time, when being willing to return from whence he came, he again went up stairs; but instead of entering his own chamber, went into that of the deceased Count, over whose head had been thrown a cloth. The Englishman, after having put out his candle, lay down by the side of the defunct, when creeping as close to him as possible, in order to warm himself, and finding his bedfellow very cold, he began to mutter—What d—l's the matter, my friend, said he you are so cold as ice. I'll bet you any thing, dumb as you are, you would have been warm enough, if you had seen the pretty girl below stairs. Come come, you may take my word for it, added he and pulling him by the arm,—come zound sir what is the matter with you. While he was holding this fine conversation with the dead, who (detached from the things of this world) did not give himself the trouble of making a reply—his chamber door was opened, which made him raise his head from the pillow, to see what was coming in. Judge what must have been his surprise, when he saw a servant, lighting a joiner, who carried a coffin on his shoulder! He at first thought he had been in a dream; but looking about & seeing the visage of one who had not spoken a word, a visage overspread with mortal paleness, he made but one spring from the bed into the middle of the chamber. The joiner and maid, immediately persuaded that it was the corpse who being unwilling to be shut up in the coffin was now playing its gambols, their legs were unable to move with swiftness proportionable to their fear, and joiner, maid, coffin and candlestick, rolled over each other from the top of the stairs, down into the kitchen. Zounds what are you about cried the landlord? is the d—l flying away with the dead man? Mercy on us cried the maid, it is rather the dead man flying away with us. I'll be hanged said the joiner, if that dead fellow there has any more occasion for a coffin than I have; why he has got up in the middle of the room, and has just struck up a hornpipe. Has he? said the landlord, (and taking a light) faith we'll see that.

While the family were tumbling, and getting up to follow the master of the house the Englishman, who had found his chamber, stepped into bed quite out of breath; and his friend having asked him where he had been, he had just been lying with a dead body. 'Sblood! a dead body! it had perhaps the plague, cried he, jumping in his turn out of bed, and running to the door to call for a light. The landlord, landlady and servants who were passing through the gallery, no sooner saw him, than they imagined him to be the dead who appeared again; down they came much faster than they went up, head over heels from top to bottom, with the candle tick rolling after them. At this confusion, joined with their shrieks and clamours, the Englishman, terrified at the hideous noise soon made for his room, and stepped into bed with his companion, without the least fear of catching the plague. In the mean time an honest country priest, who lodged in the inn, got up and appeared armed with a long broom instead of a little brush. He made his aspersions; and the conjurations prescribed by the Roman church, and conducted by way of procession, the terrified trembling people into the chamber of the defuct, who, thinking no harm, lay quietly in bed. The priest was instantly regarded as a saint, and they all cried up the miracle, which had bound the corpse to its good behavior, and prevented its being refractory.

ANECDOTES.

A gentleman in Paris, superintendent of an institution for the instruction of deaf and dumb children, was asked by a friend to allow him to put a question to one of the children, with a view to ascertain his mental improvement. The request being complied with, he was desired to write his question, and affix it to the wall. It was this:—"Does God reason?" The child instantly wrote underneath with a pencil, "God knows and sees every thing. Reason implies doubt and uncertainty; therefore God does *not* reason."

He that resigns his peace to casualties, and suffers the course of his life to be interrupted by fortuitious inadvertencies or offences, delivers up himself to the direction of the wind, and loses all that constancy and equanimity, which constitute the chief praise of a wise man.

On Improsonment for Debt.

EXTRACTED FROM MR. JOHNSON'S SPEECH
Delivered in the Senate of the U. States.

It is easier to convince my own mind of the impropriety of abolishing imprisonment for debt, I fear, than by communicating my views to carry conviction to the bosoms of others. I am conscious that public speaking is not my forte; but, on this important subject, it has become my duty to present to the Senate my sentiments.

The power of a creditor to imprison his debtor, is the only case in the United States, where, among freemen, one citizen has legal authority to deprive his co-equal fellow-citizen, at discretion, of the right of personal liberty. It constitutes an awful exception, both in our civil and criminal code, which, in my humble opinion, is repugnant to the spirit of the constitution. In the case of minors, it is true, the parent has a limited control over his child—the guardian over his ward, and the master over his apprentice; but this power is necessarily given only on account of the minority of the subject.

When the years of infancy are past, and man attains to the age of freedom, our laws regard his personal liberty too sacred to be annihilated by his own voluntary act. If a man, by solemn contract, binds himself to serve another, even if the reward of that service is paid at its commencement, the contract is void in law, and cannot be enforced. A failure to perform the service, will only subject the person to the payment in money of the amount of damages incurred; but the power does not exist to deprive him of his freedom, nor to extort his personal service without his own consent. Personal liberty is not permitted to enter into the contemplation of either party, as any part of the consideration of the fulfilment of the contract, or the penalty for its violatton. You must confide in his honor, or look to his effects for relief if he deceives you. An action for damages alone can be sustained; for, however strong your claim may be to his personal service, the principle is deemed too dangerous to be tolerated in a free government, to permit a man, for any pecuniary consideration, to dispose of the liberty of his equal. But, in cases of debt, our present law, regardless of the honesty or the misfortunes of the debtor, gives to the creditor this sovereign power over his person, a power too sacred to be abridged by his own act, to lodge him in prison at discretion. You vest the creditor with the prerogative of heaven, without imparting to him its attributes of righteousness or mercy; the power to execute vengeance where there is no crime, and to inflict punishment without trial or proof of guilt.

Let us examine whether there is any solid foundation on which this barbarous practice, this anomaly in our laws, can find support. I will advance it, as an incontrovertible, principle, that poverty is no crime; nor is a failure to fulfil a pecuniary engagement, when prevented by misfortune, in any degree associated with guilt. The victim of penury is a proper object of sympathy and benevolence. If there is a spark of divinity remaining in fallen man, it inspires this sentiment, and the revelation of God's will to his creature confirms it. A striking illustration of this is given us in the miraculous interference of heaven on behalf of a poor widow, recorded in the old testament. Her husband had been a righteous man though reduced to insolvency. After his death, an unrelenting creditor, like those for whose malicious pleasure this law exists, was threatening to sell her two sons into bondage to pay the debt of their deceased father. She cried to a prophet for advice. Moved with divine compassion, he raised a cry to heaven in her behalf, and the Almighty interposed, by increasing her only remaining store, a solitary cruse of oil, into an abundance equal to the relief which her necessity demanded. Had poverty been a crime, in the sight of God, she would not have been rescued from its consequence by a miracle.

The honest victim of disappointment, when all his fair prospects are blasted by the unforeseen accident, which rends from him in a moment the honest gains of many industrious years, must, at this unpropitious moment, be torn from the embraces of his family, and dragged to the felon's den, where nothing but a wall of stone or brick separates him from the murderer. His poverty is made a crime of so deep a hue, as to transcend the pardoning power of the government; and neither the tears of his wife nor the cries of his helpless children can restore him to them, nor his industry to their support, till the vengeance of an incensed creditor shall be satiated.

It is far from my desire to limit the power of the creditor over the property of his debtor. It is the sacred duty of government to protect every individual in the quiet and absolute enjoyment of his honest acquisitions; and it is perfectly clear, in my mind, that our laws should recognize an interest of the creditor in the possessions of his debtor. If, in case of debt, the remedy against the property is too limited, let it be extended: give it the greatest latitude; but confine its operation to that object, and do not carry it to personal liberty. I believe the power of attachment against property is already complete, with but few exceptions; and if the system can be perfected, let it be done. The whole property of the debtor is subject to execution, except the tools of the mechanic, the utensils of the farmer, and perhaps, in some instances, a bed for the wife and children to lie down and mourn, when all their other dependence is gone, and the prison doors are barred upon the husband and the father. In one or two of the states, the real property is also shielded from execution; but there are very few exceptions to the general rule.

In case of fraud, the creditor has his remedy at common law or in Chancery, and where the fact can be established of fraudulent concealment or conveyance, such property is made liable to execution and sale. If modern experience can suggest an improvement in the wisdom of ages, let the system be made still more complete. Take the little that is reserved. Strip the debtor of every thing that can benefit the creditor; but do not take that which will degrade the man, reduce his wife to an unnatural widowhood, the children untimely orphans, and inflict the keenest wound upon the whole family, without one solitary advantage to the creditor, except the infernal pleasure of gratifying the most diabolical of all human passions, the revenge of a vindictive spirit.

It is said, that imprisonment for debt, under the mild execution of the law which now prevails, is a mere shadow; and it may sometimes coerce the payment of debts, if it should be continued. If this is but a shadow, where is the substance fled; and why does it blush to appear? If the law is so barbarous that honorable men are unwilling to execute it, then, for the honor of the country, I beseech you blot it out of your civil code, and suffer it not to exist for those who are so lost to honor, as to make it their resort. But the history of its practice proves that it is more than a dead letter. It is the tyrant's rod and the poor man's terror. In cities, where the density of population renders the evil *more* visible, their prisons are never solitary. A good man in adversity is pursued by a combination of creditors, each with a separate demand, to procrastinate the period when he hopes to relieve himself from a loathsome prison by the only legal resort, a degrading oath. As soon as one creditor has finished his course of prosecution, another commences; and thus he is continually harassed, till his spirits are broken; his credit destroyed; his prospects blasted; his moral influence sunk; and frequently he is compelled to abandon the society of his dearest friends, where he might have survived his misfortunes, but for this legalized cruelty of which he is made the victim.

The object of government is to secure us in the enjoyment of our rights, and to guard them against every violation, unless forfeited by crime. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, are unalienable. In what manner is the personal liberty of the citizen shielded by the constitution? The writ of habeas corpus cannot be suspended unless, in times of civil war or foreign invasion, the public safety may require it. Every freeman is secured in his person his house, his papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches & seizures. No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or other infamous crime, unless on the presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except cases arising in the land and naval forces. No man shall be compelled to testify against himself. The accused shall enjoy the right of a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury—to be informed of the nature of the accusation—to be confronted with his accusers—to have compulsory process to obtain his witnesses and to have counsel for his defence. These are some of the principles contained in the constitution, to shield personal liberty from encroachment. But, in the case of imprisonment for debt, where no discrimination is made between innocence and guilt, they are all abandoned; and the political maxims contained in the Declaration of Independence are set at naught. The feelings of humanity are outraged—innocence is punished—the moral law disregarded—the precepts of the gospel put at defiance; and this you do to obtain the pound of flesh nearest the heart of the unfortunate debtor.

(To be concluded in our next.)